

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method of assigning director authority in a system that streams digital content from a multiplicity of sources of digital information to a multiplicity of client devices under control of a multiplicity of directors, the method implemented in conjunction with a network of digital computers, at least one of the digital computers comprising a content server upon which the steps of the method are
10 implemented in computer memory and upon at least one computer processor, each director having director attributes, the content server including a store of director instruction records wherein each director instruction record represents one director instruction, the method comprising the steps of:
- 15 extracting for a director, in dependence upon the director's attributes, director instructions from the store of director instruction records; and
- downloading the extracted director instructions to the director.
- 20 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising logging in a director to the content server and determining the director's attributes, determining the director's attributes further comprising reading a store of director records wherein each director record represents one director, each director record comprising a director identification.
- 25 3. The method of claim 2 wherein each director record further comprises a director authority.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein:

the director attributes include director authority,

- 5 at least one director has administrative director authority, and

administrative director authority includes authority to edit the director instruction records.

- 10 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the director attributes include director authority, the method further comprising editing the director instruction records, wherein the editing is carried out through a director having administrative director authority.

- 15 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the director attributes comprise a director identity, wherein the director instruction records comprise a director instruction identity, and wherein extracting director instructions comprises the further steps of:

determining a director identity; and

- 20 extracting from the store of director instructions director instructions having director instruction identities equal to the director identity.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the director's attributes comprise a director authority, wherein the director instruction records comprise a director instruction authority, and wherein extracting director instructions comprises the further steps of:

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determining a director authority; and

extracting from the store of director instructions director instructions having director instruction authorities equal to the director authority.

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8. The method of claim 1, wherein the director instructions comprise URLs.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the director instructions comprise URLs and anchors.

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10. The method of claim 1 further comprising encoding the extracted director instructions into hyperlinks in an HTML document.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein downloading the extracted director instructions to the director comprises downloading an HTML document to the director.

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12. A system for assigning director authority for streaming digital content from a multiplicity of sources of digital information to a multiplicity of client devices under control of a multiplicity of directors, the system implemented in conjunction with a network of digital computers, at least one of the digital computers comprising a content server upon which the system is implemented in computer memory and upon at least one computer processor, each director having director attributes, the content server including a store of director instruction records wherein each director instruction record represents one director instruction, the system comprising:
- means for extracting for a director, in dependence upon the director's attributes, director instructions from the store of director instruction records; and
- means for downloading the extracted director instructions to the director.
13. The system of claim 12 further comprising means for logging in a director to the content server and means for determining the director's attributes, means for determining the director's attributes further comprising means for reading a store of director records wherein each director record represents one director, each director record comprising a director identification.
14. The system of claim 13 wherein each director record further comprises a director authority.

15. The system of claim 12 wherein:

the director attributes include director authority,

5 at least one director has administrative director authority, and

administrative director authority includes authority to edit the director instruction records.

10 16. The system of claim 12, wherein the director attributes include director authority, the system further comprising means for editing the director instruction records, wherein the means for editing is utilized through a director having administrative director authority.

15 17. The system of claim 12 wherein the director attributes comprise a director identity, wherein the director instruction records comprise a director instruction identity, and wherein means for extracting director instructions further comprises:

means for determining a director identity; and

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means for extracting from the store of director instructions director instructions having director instruction identities equal to the director identity.

18. The system of claim 12 wherein the director's attributes comprise a director authority, wherein the director instruction records comprise a director instruction authority, and wherein means for extracting director instructions further comprises:

5 means for determining a director authority; and

means for extracting from the store of director instructions director instructions having director instruction authorities equal to the director authority.

10 19. The system of claim 12, wherein the director instructions comprise URLs.

20. The system of claim 12, wherein the director instructions comprise URLs and anchors.

15 21. The system of claim 12 further comprising means for encoding the extracted director instructions into hyperlinks in an HTML document.

20 22. The system of claim 12 wherein means for downloading the extracted director instructions to the director comprises means for downloading an HTML document to the director.

23. A computer program product for assigning director authority for streaming digital content from a multiplicity of sources of digital information to a multiplicity of client devices under control of a multiplicity of directors, the system implemented
5 in conjunction with a network of digital computers, at least one of the digital computers comprising a content server upon which the system is implemented in computer memory and upon at least one computer processor, each director having director attributes, the content server including a store of director instruction records wherein each director instruction record represents one director instruction,
10 the system comprising:

a recording medium;

15 means, recorded on the recording medium, for extracting for a director, in dependence upon the director's attributes, director instructions from the store of director instruction records; and

means, recorded on the recording medium, for downloading the extracted director instructions to the director.

20 24. The computer program product of claim 23 further comprising means, recorded on the recording medium, for logging in a director to the content server and means, recorded on the recording medium, for determining the director's attributes, means
25 for determining the director's attributes further comprising means for reading a store of director records wherein each director record represents one director, each director record comprising a director identification.

25. The computer program product of claim 23 wherein each director record further comprises a director authority.

26. The computer program product of claim 23 wherein:

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the director attributes include director authority,

at least one director has administrative director authority, and

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administrative director authority includes authority to edit the director instruction records.

27. The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the director attributes include director authority, the computer program product further comprising means, recorded on the recording medium, for editing the director instruction records, wherein the means for editing is utilized through a director having administrative director authority.

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28. The computer program product of claim 23 wherein the director attributes comprise a director identity, wherein the director instruction records comprise a director instruction identity, and wherein means for extracting director instructions further comprises:

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means, recorded on the recording medium, for determining a director identity; and

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means, recorded on the recording medium, for extracting from the store of director instructions director instructions having director instruction identities equal to the director identity.

- 5 29. The computer program product of claim 12 wherein the director's attributes comprise a director authority, wherein the director instruction records comprise a director instruction authority, and wherein means for extracting director instructions further comprises:

10 means, recorded on the recording medium, for determining a director authority; and

 means, recorded on the recording medium, for extracting from the store of director instructions director instructions having director instruction authorities equal to the director authority.

- 15 30. The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the director instructions comprise URLs.

- 20 31. The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the director instructions comprise URLs and anchors.

32. The computer program product of claim 23 further comprising means, recorded on the recording medium, for encoding the extracted director instructions into hyperlinks in an HTML document.

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33. The computer program product of claim 23 wherein means for downloading the extracted director instructions to the director comprises means for downloading an HTML document to the director.